## Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 OIC-04 ACDA-19 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EB-11 COME-00

COA-02 INT-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 JUSE-00 CG-00 FMC-04

NSF-04 AEC-11 AGR-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

RSR-01 /247 W

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**UNCLAS GENEVA 4358** 

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJ: LOS: SC-I MTG, AUGUST 9

- 1. SUMMARY: CHILE AND PERU RAISED QUESTION OF ON-GOING SEABED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS. US MADE BRIEF STATEMENT ON US INTERIM POLICY. END SUMMARY.
- 2. CHILE REP MADE LENGTHY STATEMENT ON SEABED MINERAL EXPLORATION CARRIED OUT BY US, JAPANESE AND WEST GERMAN FIRMS. HE DIRECTED PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO RECENT UNCTAD STUDY ON EXPLOITATION OF SEABED MINERAL RESOURCES AND INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY POLICY AND CASE STUDY ON COBALT (TD/B/449) AND TO WASHINGTON POST STORY (AUGUST 6) ON HUGHES SEABED EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES. HE SAID THESE REPORTS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE IMPORTANCE OF LOS CONFERENCE TAKING PLACE ON SCHEDULE AND URGENT NEED FOR POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS WHICH, HE OBSERVED, HAD NOT TAKEN LACE SO FAR. HE STATED THERE IS PRACTICALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSENSUS WITHIN SEABED COMMITTEE THAT THERE WILL BE

200-MILE RESOURCE ZONE AND IT IS CLEAR FROM STUDIES THAT THERE ARE KNOWN MINERAL RESOURCES WITHIN THIS COASTAL AREA. HE SUMMARIZED UNCTAD CONCLUSIONS TO EFFECT THAT AS RESULT OF SEABED MINING, LAND-BASED PRODUCERS' EARNINGS FROM METALS CONTAINED IN NODULES WILL INCREASE AT A LOWER RATE, PRODUCTION MAY HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS FOR LDC PRODUCERS, AND THERE IS NEED FOR PREVENTIVE ACTION AGAINST SUCH AFFECTS. HE CONCLUDED BY REITERATING URGENT NEED FOR POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS AND URGED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A SERIOUS STUDY OF POSSIBILITY OF PROVISIONAL APPLICATION OF TREATY. HE ASKED THAT FULL, COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF SEABED EXPLOITATION FOR LDCS BE COMPLETED BY SECRETARY GENERAL AND SUBMITTED WELL BEFORE SANTIAGO CONFERENCE.

- 3. PERU REP RECALLED US INTERIM SEABED MINING LEGISLA-TION AND US DEL STATEMENTS ON SUCH LEGISLATION AT MARCH SESSION. HE NOTED US HAD NOT RULED OUT POSSIBILITY OF SUPPORTING SUCH LEGISLATION AND THAT US DECISION WOULD DEPEND ON PROGRESS IN COMMITTEE. PERU REP IN-TERPRETED "PROGRESS" TO MEAN THAT TREATY NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE COMPLETED BY CERTAIN DATE AND FINAL AGREE-MENT WOULD BE ALONG LINES US FAVORS. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT WASHINGTON POST STORY, SAYING HE HOPED IT DID NOT MEAN US HAS DECIDED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOT GOING WAY US EXPECTED. HE STATED SUCH CONCLUSION ON PART OFUS WOULD NOT BE ABSURD IN VIEW OF MASSIVE SUPPORT FOR ENTERPRISE CONCEPT IN SUBCOMMITTEE I WORKING GROUP. HE SAID NEGOTIATIONS ARE GRAVELY THREATENED BY US THREAT AND SAID IT ESSENTIAL TO KNOW WHETHER SEABED COMMITTEE IS WASTING ITS TIME.
- 4. US REP STEVENSON STATED HE AGREED PROGRESS WAS VITAL SO THAT TECHNOLOGY WOULD NOT OUTRUN PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS. HE NOTED US GOVERNMENT POSITION ON INTERIM MINING LEGISLATION AND ECONOMICS OF SEABED EXPLOITATION REMAIN AS STATED IN MARCH. HE SAID SOME STATEMENTS IN DEBATE WERE INCONSISTENT WITH US VIEWS WHICH WERE SPELLED OUT IN DETAIL IN THE ATTACHMENT TO US STATEMENT CIRCULATED AT MARCH UNCLASSIFIED

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SESSION. HE CONCLUDED BY STRESSING IT WAS URGENT TO PROCEED WITH WORK SO THAT WHEN COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION DOES TAKE PLACE IT WILL TAKE PLACE UNDER INTERNATIONALLY AGREED ARRANGEMENTS.BASSIN

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